

REMARKS

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Advisory Action mailed on April 18, 2007.

Claims 1 and 3-21 are pending in this application. Applicants cancel claims 8 and 22-43 without prejudice. Applicants amend claim 1. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action dated April 18, 2007, the Examiner asserts that the application is not in condition for allowance. However, the Examiner indicated that claim 8 may be considered for allowance if rewritten in an independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim.

While Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner's rejection of the pending claims, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the recitation of allowable claim 8, which is now cancelled. Claim 1 as amended thus contains patentable subject matter and is allowable. Claims 2-7, and 9-21 depend on amended claim 1 and incorporate all the limitations of this base claim. Applicants submit, that claims 2-7 and 9-21 are also patentable at least because they depend on an allowable base claim.

Applicants maintain the right to prosecute any of the former forms of any presented claim in a related continuing application without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants submit claims 1, 3-7, and 9-21 are in condition for allowance, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that an interview would facilitate the resolution of any outstanding issues, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned.

In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, Applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application does not become abandoned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 22956-237.

Dated: May 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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